REPORT

OF THE

GOVERNOR AND COMMITTEE

OF THE

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY,

TO BE

LAID BEFORE THE SHAREHOLDERS,

NOVEMBER 10TH, 1875.

LONDON:

PRINTERS: SIR JOSEPH CAUSTON AND SONS, 47, EASTCHEAP, E.C., & SOUTHWARK ST., S.E.

1875.



DIRECTORS.

Cobernor.

THE RIGHT HONORABLE GEORGE J. GOSCHEN, M.P.

Beputy-Gobernor.

EDEN COLVILE, ESQUIRE.

Committee.

GEORGE LYALL, Esquire.

RICHARD POTTER, Esquire.

EDWARD WILLIAM TERRICK HAMILTON, Esquire.

THOMAS HOLDSWORTH NEWMAN, Esquire.

SIR JOHN ROSE, Bart.

FRANCIS PEEK, Esquire.

Montagu C. Wilkinson, Esquire.

A GENERAL COURT of the Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's Bay will be held, in pursuance of the provisions of the Charter, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon Street, on Wednesday, the 10th of November next, at Two o'clock, for the purpose of Electing a Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Committee for the year ensuing. The Ballot will commence at that hour and close at Four o'clock.

By the 7th George the III., cap. 48, no person can be admitted to vote who has not been in possession of Stock for Six Calendar Months, unless such Stock shall have been acquired by bequest, or by marriage, or by succession to an Intestate's Estate, or by the Custom of the City of London, or by any deed of settlement after the death of any person who shall have been entitled for life to the dividends of such Stock.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed on Tuesday, the 2nd, and re-opened on Thursday, the 11th November.

By order of the Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Committee of the said Company,

W. ARMIT,

Secretary.

Hudson's Bay House, London, October 26th, 1875.

REPORT.

In accordance with the provisions of the Company's Charter, the Governor and Committee have called a Meeting of the Shareholders, for the purpose of electing a Governor, Deputy-Governor, and Committee for the ensuing year. The present Governors and Directors offer themselves for re-election.

Since June last, when the proprietors were informed that the Canadian Government intended to enter upon negotiations with the Company for the purchase of the bulk of their lands, the Committee have had personal conferences and communications with the Prime Minister of Canada on this important subject, and they had hoped to have been able upon this occasion to report the result of the negotiations. They are, however, still in such a position that the Committee beg to submit to the Shareholders their strong opinion that a discussion of the matters involved would be inexpedient at the present moment.

As regards the trade of the Company, the Committee have to report the arrival of the Barque "Ocean Nymph," from York Factory with the Returns of the Coast and neighbouring Posts, which compare favourably with those of last year. Several shipments of Furs from the Northern Department have also arrived by Steamers from Canada, by which route the remainder is being sent.

On her outward voyage, the Barque "Lady Head," encountered large quantities of ice, which retarded her progress. She arrived at Moose Factory on the 10th of September, and was expected to be ready about the end of that month to start on her homeward voyage with the Returns of the Southern Department, the particulars of which have not yet been received.

In the absence of the Accounts of these Departments, it is impossible to give a comparison of the Returns of Outfit 1874 with those of previous years.

The trade of the Western Department continues to show good results, notwithstanding the strong competition against which the Officers of the Company have to contend in that quarter. The Furs from this Department and a portion of those from Canada were sold, as usual, early in the Autumn, when prices declined considerably from the high rates obtained at the corresponding sale in 1874.

The Committee have much pleasure in informing the proprietors that the Steamer "Northcote" has been successful in reaching Edmonton, from the mouth of the Saskatchewan, a distance of about 1000 miles. She delivered a large cargo of goods at that station, and returned in safety with Furs and Robes to Grand Rapids, near Lake Winnipeg.

Another Steamer, named the "Colvile," has been plying between Grand Rapids and Red River—keeping up the communication with the Saskatchewan Steamer, by means of which the Officers now feel themselves in a position to conduct the transport service of that important section of the country in a more satisfactory manner at a moderate cost, and to introduce improvements in the communication with the more northerly districts.

In consequence of the depressed state of business in Canada generally and in the United States, the Company have not made any sales of their Town lots at Fort Garry this season.

The Committee avail themselves of this opportunity of recommending an interim Dividend of 8s. per Share, to be paid as customary, on the 8th of January.

For the information of recent Shareholders it may be explained that the Charter provides for the Election of the Governor and Committee taking place in the month of November of each year.

On behalf of the Committee,

GEORGE J. GOSCHEN,

Governor.

1875 NOVEMBER PROCEEDINGS MISSING.

